LEGISLATIVE AUDIT DIVISION

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

To the Legislative Audit Committee of the Montana State Legislature:

We have audited the basic financial statements of the state of Montana for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated November 28, 2003. Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133 Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations, and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the audit procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

This report is intended for the information of the Legislative Audit Committee, state of Montana management, the Montana State Legislature, federal awarding agencies, and pass-through entities and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signature on File)

James Gillett, CPA Deputy Legislative Auditor

November 28, 2003